

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims.

Status of the Claims

The listing of claims reflects the amendments requested and new claims added in Amendment H, filed on May 12, 2008.

Claims 1 - 47 have been properly marked as canceled.

Claims 48, 49, 52, 53, 59, 61, and 66 remain pending, and claims 67, 68, and 69 have been added.

Claim 48 has been amended to clarify that the nickel layer is deposited with an internal compressive stress at the high plating rate throughout the throughput of 14 to 22 MTO, which is supported at paragraphs [0020] and [0036]. Claim 48 has also been amended to require metal salt stabilizers comprising volatile anions, which is supported at paragraph [0017].

New claim 67 is supported at paragraph [0017]. New claims 68 and 69 are supported at paragraphs [0051] and [0052].

Applicants respectfully request that the Office enter the requested amendments and consider the Remarks in Amendment H.

Respectfully submitted,

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